



Improve the accuracy and timeliness of crash data to enable stakeholders to make quality traffic safety improvements

On time and within budget, CPR goes live!

LANSING - On time and on budget, Phase 1 of the CRASH Process Redesign (CPR) project has been completed. The goal of the CPR project is to improve the accuracy and timeliness of crash data to enable stakeholders to make quality traffic safety improvements. Objectives include updating outdated processing and reporting technologies, streamlining business processes, improving data integrity, reducing processing costs and providing traffic safety partners with crash data that is accurate, timely and easily accessible.

A multi dimensional project team made up of representatives from the Departments of State Police, Transportation, Information Technology, Secretary of State, local law enforcement, traffic safety engineers, metropolitan planning organizations and university researchers have spent the last 18 months analyzing, designing, testing and implementing the new system.

Jack Benac, CPR project manager said, "The Crash System Redesign will provide law enforcement, engineers, researchers and other users of crash data with a system that is both flexible and efficient in meeting their needs while taking into account the business needs of state agencies."

Why Update Now?

Crash data processing has been managed under a system designed in the early 1970s and, with few exceptions, has remained fundamentally unchanged. With the advent of faster computers, more powerful technical infrastructures, the internet and an increased public need to provide safer roads, the State of Michigan embarked on a project to completely update and redesign the aging and outdated system.

"The current crash processing system could no longer support the needs of our traffic safety partners that require accurate and timely crash data, we had to make some changes," Benac said.

Another example of the needed change was the ability for the state to identify crashes in which there was evidence of state property damage.

"The State of Michigan lost over \$1.5 million last year due to the inability to accurately identify these crashes, said Benac. "The upgrades to the system will allow us to perform this check and ensure the state is reimbursed these costs."



What's going to change?

Improvements expected with the Phase 1 implementation include streamlined data processing, improved coordination and sharing of crash data among state agencies, web based reporting capabilities for law enforcement agencies, and a reduction in processing costs and an improvement in the quality of crash data.

Richard Miller, AAA Michigan Community Safety Services Manager, said, "The quality improvements being implemented in Phase 1 will dramatically improve timely access to the Michigan crash reporting system by law enforcement agencies for their traffic safety enforcement initiatives."

What's Next?

Work has already begun on Phase 2 of the CPR project. This phase will further refine crash processing including providing additional quality control check points, upgrading outdated hardware systems, increasing inter-departmental data flows and certify the ability for agencies to electronically submit crash forms.

Ultimately, the project success has hinged on two fundamental guidelines: realistic expectations and teamwork.

"We didn't want anyone to think this project was going to solve all the states' issues in regards to this important activity," Benac said. "This was just one step in a long, continuous journey that is far from over."

Electronic Data Systems (EDS) was the contractor chosen to design and implement the technical software updates.

John Dullock, EDS Crash Project Manager said, "This has been an excellent example of a partnership between EDS, the State of Michigan and local communities. The teamwork and commitment between all the groups has been extremely professional. EDS used a core set of processes to guide the project and representatives from all the agencies worked right along with our resources."

Fred Bueter, chair of the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee, said, "We knew from the start that if all the groups agreed to work together and were willing to be in a 'give and take' mentality, this project would go well. It's a testament to our local and state partners for having the mind set to move forward and ultimately provide a safer transportation system."

For more information about the CPR project go to: www.michigan.gov/ohsp, Click on the 'Other Safety Programs' link and scroll to the bottom of the page and the updates will be listed under the *Traffic Records and Roadway Safety* section.

You can also be notified of CPR project updates and other traffic safety information by subscribing to the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission. To subscribe, Send an email to listserv@listserv.michigan.gov and leave the subject box blank. Then type 'subscribe GTSAC' (do not include quotes) in the body of the email and click Send

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